

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Holy Cross****Project Title:**

Holy Cross - City Truck For Transportation

State Funding Requested: \$ 25,000**House District: 6 - C**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Purchase City Truck for Transportation

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$25,000**Funding Secured

Amount FY

Other Pending Requests

Amount FY

Anticipated Future Need

Amount FY

There is no other funding needed

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

The City of Holy Cross would like to purchase a truck.

Project Timeline:

Project will occur in 2009.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

City of Holy Cross

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: Connie Walker

Phone Number: (907) 476-7139

Address: PO Box 227 Holy Cross, AK 99602

Email:

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Maridon Boario

From: Connie Walker [cmwalker39@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2008 2:36 PM
To: Nancy Barnes
Cc: Maridon Boario; cityofholycross@gci.net
Subject: 2008 CIP
Attachments: Holy Cross 2008 CIP.doc

I will be mailing a signed hard copy along with a letter of support from the Tribal Council tomorrow the 15th. I was trying to attach this document with my GCI email account but it wouldn't so I'm using my personal email. The City email is cityofholycross@gci.net. If there is anything else you will need from me at this time please let me know. Thank you for your time.

Connie Walker, Administrator
City of Holy Cross
phone: 907-476-7139
fax: 907-476-7141

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CITY OF HOLY CROSS
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January 14, 2008

Senator Albert Kookesh
Representative Woodie Salmon

Dear Senator Kookesh and Rep. Salmon,

Introduction:

The City of Holy Cross (City) represents a mostly Ingalik Athabaskan village of about 205 residents located along the west bank of the Yukon River near the topographic boundary between Interior Alaska and the Yukon Delta.

SETTING AND HISTORY:

Setting

The Holy Cross community is situated on a river terrace tightly bounded by the Holy Cross Hills to the west and north and the Yukon River floodplain to the east and south.

The Holy Cross Hills are a prominent community landmark and backdrop. They serve as the aquifer recharge area for the City's well and provide a useful hillside location for the water storage tank. In addition, the hills partially surround the Holy Cross community and thereby provide a degree of weather protection. Their close proximity and steep slopes, however, are a constraint to community growth.

The Yukon and its floodplain similarly define the Holy Cross setting. The river is the region's primary landmark and transportation corridor. It facilitates barge and boat service during the ice-free months and serves as a trail route in winter. The river, together with the numerous channels, sloughs, ponds, wetlands and bottoms that comprise its floodplain, provide habitat for the plant and animal communities essential for a subsistence lifestyle. Despite its social and economic benefit to the community, the Yukon River floodplain also restrains growth and infrastructure development for Holy Cross.

History

Holy Cross is within the transition zone between the traditional territories of the Yup'ik Eskimo (Yukon Delta) and the Ingalik Athabaska (Alaska Interior). A few cultural artifacts of mixed Eskimo and Indian origin have been discovered in the area and descriptions of both cultures are contained in the cultural resources survey and report by Northern Land Use Research (dated June 2005) in Appendix A. Glazunov, the Russian fur trader known as the first European to visit the area in 1834, reports a winter settlement he called "Anulychtychpak" at either the Ghost Creek or Holy Cross location. A smallpox epidemic is known to have ravaged local populations in 1838, although its full impact on this community is not clear. According to Russian Orthodox records (beginning in 1847) indicate an Anulychtychpak population of approximately 100 people.

Also an area of topographic and vegetative transition, the Holy Cross location is where ascending Yukon River travelers leave the flat, poorly drained Delta and first encounter hills with appreciable quantities of timber. Consequently, this sheltered site at the bend of the river was selected in 1887 by Jesuit priests Robaut and Girodano for a Catholic mission and school.

Nuns from the Sisters of St. Anne arrived in 1888 and worked together with the clergy to build a mission consisting of: church, school, residence buildings, and laundry, bakery, infirmary, and storage facilities. Approximately ten acres were put under cultivation for the production of potatoes, beets, carrots and vegetables as shown in the 1898 photo (above). Another 30 acres were cultivated to raise oats, hay, and barley for the mission's livestock, consisting of about a dozen cattle and several work horses.

The mission became an important stop as river traffic increased, first during the upriver Klondike gold rush, then subsequent gold discoveries at Fairbanks, Nome, Iditarod and Ruby.

In 1899, a post office was opened under the name "Koserefsky" but by 1912 the name was changed to "Holy Cross". Over the years, the Holy Cross mission imported and boarded hundreds of students from Ingalik and Yup'ik families up and down the river as shown in the 1914 photos (above and below).

The Yukon River would continue to change its course. In 1929, the river cut a new channel that wiped out much of the agricultural area and created a large offshore sandbar. Consequently, Holy Cross was isolated from the main channel and left without means for growing its own produce. The channel eventually evolved into a backwater, Walker Slough, further restricting river traffic access to the community. The mission continued until 1956 when the boarding school ceased operations and the mission church and other buildings were torn down.

The Athabascan and Yupik community that had developed over the 70-year history of the mission, however, continued, relying on gardening, as well as more traditional hunter-gatherer subsistence activities. In 1968, Holy Cross was recognized by the State of Alaska as a Second Class City.

A more comprehensive history of the area is contained in the archeological survey prepared by Charles M. Mobley and Associates (dated 2005), located in Appendix A.

GOVERNMENT:

The City of Holy Cross is classified as a Second Class City in an unorganized Borough within the State of Alaska. This classification allows them to exercise powers not otherwise prohibited by law (AS 29.35.260). According to Statute the City may regulate planning, collect taxes, and may provide and charge for sewer and water, fire protection, animal control, health clinic, washeteria, refuse collection and landfill operations. Holy Cross has not assessed taxes (sales, property or special) and has not assumed the platting and land use regulations from the State (DNR).

The City does not have the powers of eminent domain and therefore must negotiate with land owners for any future projects requiring additional lands. The Village Corporation – Deloycheet, Incorporated, owns and manages the surface rights and the Regional Corporation (Doyon, Ltd.) has title to the subsurface lands within and around much of Holy Cross. This land has been transferred under an interim conveyance 433 and 434 as part of the regional transfer agreement in accordance with the 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. Holy Cross is not located on a federally recognized reservation, and therefore must comply with all State laws applicable to design, construction and operation of sanitation facilities.

Holy Cross also has a Village Council – Holy Cross Tribal Council, which is eligible to receive assistance from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and other agencies for such matters as police activities and housing development.


Both Councils from the City of Holy Cross and Holy Cross Tribal Council are making an aggressive effort to work together for the best interest of the community members of Holy Cross. Recently the City of Holy Cross and Holy Cross Tribal Council have signed a MOU to work together in the maintenance and improvement of the streets and roads. We feel this is just a stepping stone in our endeavor in working together.

Community Needs:

For the community of Holy Cross, we have not received any State assistance for Capital Improvement Projects in the past several years. We have made every effort to maintain our buildings and heavy equipment with

whatever locally generated revenues that we can and at a reduced level, therefore, our buildings and heavy equipment are in need of renovations and major repairs. To that end, we are providing you a list of needed projects for the community of Holy Cross that has not been previously requested. The City currently is unable to do any cash match for any of these items other than to provide volunteers and use of heavy equipment. Equipment and material purchases would be mostly from Anchorage, Alaska and would also incur transportation costs.

1. Heavy Equipment purchases
 - a. Rock Crusher, approximate cost of acquisition - \$100,000.00
 - b. 8 yard dump truck, approximate cost of acquisition - \$50,000.00
 - c. Fuel Delivery Truck – used vehicle approximately \$50,000.00
 - d. Parts and repair of our heavy equipment, approximately - \$25,000.00
2. Remodeling City Buildings
 - a. City Office requires remodeling with heating and electrical upgrades to bring to Code – approximately \$25,000.00
 - b. City Hall requires heating and electrical upgrades to bring to Code – approximately \$25,000.00
 - c. City owned houses require heating and electrical upgrades for energy savings and fire safety – approximately \$35,000.00
 - d. All buildings require Security system to monitor vandalism abatement – approximately \$15,000.00
 - e. Handicap access ramps – approximately \$7,500.00
3. Improved Fuel Tank Farm
 - a. Requires 2 new tanks (double walled) – approximately \$33,000.00 each
 - b. Requires new fuel transfer lines – approximately \$15,000.00 to upgrade existing lines
 - c. Requires new dikes – approximately \$10,000.00
4. City truck for transportation – used vehicle approximately \$25,000.00
5. City Shop requires new flooring (prefer a cement floor) – approximately \$50,000.00
6. City Boat Dock/Ramp – approximately \$75,000.00
7. Improve Roads in the community with culverts – approximately \$2,000,000.00



Contacts:

Mayor – Matthew A. Burkett

City Administrator – Connie Walker

Respectfully,

Matthew A. Burkett
Mayor, City of Holy Cross

